

ABSTRACT

A byte code modification method for a classfile is described. The classfile describes properties of a class within an object oriented environment . The byte code modification method entails modifying a classfile after the classfile has been compiled from source code. The modification of the classfile entails modifying a method information structure by adding byte code instructions to the byte code instructions of the method information structure's respective method. The added, byte code instructions cause a plug-in module's handler method to execute an output function for the method when it is executed during runtime. The modification of the classfile also entails adding a method information structure that includes byte code instructions for registering the identities of the class and the method with a dispatch unit. The dispatch unit is responsible for dispatching an invocation to the plug-in module during runtime execution of the modified byte code, where, the invocation is directed to the dispatch unit from the added byte code instructions.